CLAIMS

1. A method in a client-server environment, to manage the configuration of resources on at least one client, the method on a client system comprising the steps of:

   receiving a configuration template on a computer readable medium containing one or more defined configuration settings; and

   executing an application program that takes the template and applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to the client system so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a configuration template includes receiving a configuration template containing one or more defined configurations from the group of configuration settings consisting of drive mappings, shell folders, printer deployment, proxy server access, application paths, service packs, anti-virus updates, policies and automatic mail profile creation

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a configuration template includes receiving a configuration template containing one or more defined configuration settings for an operating system running on the client system.

1   4.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a
2   configuration template includes receiving a configuration template containing
3   one or more defined configuration settings for an application running on the
4   client system.

1   5.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a
2   configuration template includes receiving a configuration template containing
3   one or more defined configuration settings for redirecting a resource on the
4   client to a resource on a network

1   6.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a
2   configuration template includes receiving a configuration template from a
3   server system.

1   7.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2   executing an interpretative engine that interprets the application program
3   as source programming language; and wherein the step of executing an
4   application program includes executing an application program on the
5   interpretative engine.

1   8.   The method according to claim7, further comprising the step of:
2   receiving a custom application script on a computer readable medium,
3   the custom application script in a source programming that is interpreted by
4   the interpretative engine; and wherein the step executing an application
5   program includes executing an application program along with the custom
6   application script so as to automatically configure for at least one user, at least
7   one configuration setting.

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1   9.   The method according to claim 8, wherein the step of executing an

2   application program includes executing the custom application script prior to

3   the execution of the application program so as to cause the application

4   program to alter at least one configuration setting differently then if the

5   application program was executed after the custom application script.

1   10.   The method according to claim 8, wherein the step of executing an

2   application program includes executing the custom application script after the

3   execution of the application program so as to cause the application program

4   to alter at least one configuration setting differently then if the application

5   program was executed prior to the custom application script.

1   11.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of executing an

2   application program includes executing an application program that takes the

3   template and applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to the

4   client system so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the

5   client system, at least one configuration setting if the combination of one or

6   more predefined conditions for selected group, MAC address, user name,

7   workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address, site, domain, operating

8   system and connection method are met.

1   12.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of executing an
2   application program includes executing an application program that takes the
3   template and applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to an
4   operating system running on the client system so as to automatically configure
5   for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting if
6   the combination of one or more predefined conditions for a selected group,
7   MAC address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address,
8   site, domain, operating system and connection method are met.

1   13.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of executing an
2   application program includes executing an application program that takes the
3   template and applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to an
4   application running on the client system so as to automatically configure for at
5   least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting if the
6   combination of one or more predefined conditions for a selected group, MAC
7   address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address, site,
8   domain, operating system and connection method are met.

1   14.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of executing an
2   application program includes executing an application program that takes the
3   template and applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to
4   redirect a resource on the client to a resource on a network so as to
5   automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one
6   configuration setting if the combination of one or more predefined conditions
7   for a selected group, MAC address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP
8   address, host address, site, domain, operating system and connection method
9   are met.

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15.   A method in a client-server environment, to manage the configuration of resources on at least one client, the method on a server system comprising the steps of:

presenting a graphical user interface to a user containing user selectable items representing one or more configuration settings for at least one user on at least one client system;

receiving one or more user selections on the graphical user interface;

storing the one or more user selections in a configuration template so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting; and

transferring the configuration template to at least one client system so at to cause an application program to take the template and apply at least one of the defined configuration settings to the client system so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting.

16.   A method according to claim 15, wherein the step of receiving one or more selections includes receiving one or more configuration settings from the group of configuration settings consisting of drive mappings, shell folders, printer deployment, proxy server access, application paths, service packs, anti-virus updates, policies and automatic mail profile creation.

17.   The method according to claim 15, wherein the step of transferring a configuration template includes transferring a configuration template containing one or more defined configuration settings for an operating system running on the client system.

18.   The method according to claim15, wherein the step of transferring a configuration template includes transferring a configuration template containing one or more defined configuration settings for an application running on the client system.

19.   The method according to claim 15, wherein the step of transferring a configuration template includes transferring a configuration template containing one or more defined configuration settings for redirecting a resource on the client to a resource on a network.

20.   The method according to claim 15, wherein the step of transferring the configuration template includes transferring the configuration template to at least one client system so as to cause an application program to take the template and apply at least one of the defined configuration settings to the client system so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting if the combination of one or more predefined conditions for a selected group, MAC address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address, site, domain, operating system and connection method are met.

1   21.   The method according to claim 20, wherein the step of transferring the

2   configuration template includes transferring the configuration template to at

3   least one client system so at to cause an application program to take the

4   template and apply at least one of the defined configuration settings to an

5   operating system running on the client system so as to automatically configure

6   for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting if

7   the combination of one or more predefined conditions for selected group, MAC

8   address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address, site,

9   domain, operating system and connection method are met.

1   22.   The method according to claim 20, wherein the step of transferring the

2   configuration template includes transferring the configuration template to at

3   least one client system so at to cause an application program to take the

4   template and apply at least one of the defined configuration settings to an

5   application running on the client system so as to automatically configure for at

6   least one user on the client system, at least one configuration setting if the

7   combination of one or more predefined conditions for a selected group, MAC

8   address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address, site,

9   domain, operating system and connection method are met.

1   23.   The method according to claim 20, wherein the step of transferring the

2   configuration template includes transferring the configuration template to at

3   least one client system so at to cause an application program to take the

4   template and apply at least one of the defined configuration settings to redirect

5   a resource on the client to a resource on a network so as to automatically

6   configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one configuration

7   setting if the combination of one or more predefined conditions for selected

1   group, MAC address/user name, workstation name, TCP/IP address, host

2   address, site, domain, operating system and connection method are met..

1   24.   A computer readable medium containing programming instructions on a

2   client system in a client-server environment, the programming instructions for

3   managing the configuration of resources on at least one client, the computer

4   readable medium comprising the instructions of:

5   receiving a configuration template on a computer readable medium

6   containing one or more defined configuration settings; and

7   executing an application program that takes the template and applies at

8   least one of the defined configuration settings to the client system so as to

9   automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one

10   configuration setting.

1   25.   The computer readable medium according to claim 24, wherein the

2   programming instruction of receiving a configuration template includes

3   receiving a configuration template containing one or more defined

4   configurations from the group of configuration settings consisting of drive

5   mappings, shell folders, printer deployment, proxy server access, application

6   paths, service packs, anti-virus updates, policies and automatic mail profile

7   creation.

1   26.   The computer readable medium according to claim 24, wherein the

2   programming instruction of executing an application program includes

3   executing an application program that takes the template and applies at least

4   one of the defined configuration settings to the client system so as to

5   automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at least one

6   configuration setting if the combination of one or more predefined conditions

7   for selected group, MAC address, user name, workstation name, TCP/IP

1   address, host address, site, domain, operating system and connection method

2   are met.

1   27.   A client system to manage the configuration of at resource in a client-
2   server environment comprising:
3   means for receiving a configuration template on a computer readable
4   medium containing one or more defined configuration settings; and
5   means executing an application program that takes the template and
6   applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to the client system
7   so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the client system, at
8   least one configuration setting.

1   28.   The system according to claim 27, wherein the means for receiving a
2   configuration template includes receiving a configuration template containing
3   one or more defined configurations from the group of configuration settings
4   consisting of drive mappings, shell folders, printer deployment, proxy server
5   access, application paths, service packs, anti-virus updates, policies and
6   automatic mail profile creation.

1   29.   The system according to claim 27, wherein the means for executing an
2   application program includes executing an application program that takes the
3   template and applies at least one of the defined configuration settings to the
4   client system so as to automatically configure for at least one user on the
5   client system, at least one configuration setting if the combination of one or
6   more predefined conditions for selected group, MAC address, user name,
7   workstation name, TCP/IP address, host address, site, domain, operating
8   system and connection method are met.